

HONEY



# MARYLAND JUDGING STANDARDS FOR HONEY CRAFTS AND HONEY COOKERY

## Class Descriptions

Extracted Honey - Honey that has been separated from the comb by centrifugal force or by other means. Color will be determined by the USDA permanent glass color standards. Exhibitors may have assistance in selecting the appropriate color class for the extracted honey. Extracted honey must be in one-pound Queen glass jars, except Class 1. Beekeepers entering for the first time may exhibit in one-pint glass canning jars in Class 1. Entry is one one-pound jar.

Comb Honey - Honey contained in the cells of the comb in which it was produced. Both square sections and round sections must be protected by plastic wrap or a container suitable for marketing. If rigid plastic covers are used for round sections, both must be colorless and transparent. Entry is one section.

Cut-Comb Honey - This is bulk comb honey cut into pieces, edges drained, and suitably wrapped or packaged for marketing. Entry is one piece.

Chunk Honey - This consists of cut-comb honey in a container which is then filled with liquid extracted honey. The container must be a wide-mouth one-pound glass jar suitable for receiving and removing the comb portion. Entry is one jar.

Granulated Honey (Crystallized, Creamed) - Finely granulated honey is completely granulated, either by natural means or by various processes. Granulated honey must be exhibited in a wide-mouth, one-pound glass jar. Entry is one jar.

Extracting Frame - A frame of capped honey suitable for extracting. The entire frame must be protected with plastic wrap or suitable container. Entry is one frame.

Beeswax - An entry consists of a single, plain block of pure unbleached beeswax, weighing a minimum of one pound. The block may be wrapped in plastic for protection.

Candles - An entry shall consist of one pair of straight candles, plain tapered, dipped or molded, made of pure beeswax.

Artistic Beeswax - Any artistic or creative endeavor made from pure beeswax. If apiary or exhibitor name is an integral part of the design, then name is permitted.

Label For Honey Container - The entry shall consist of one marketable container of honey, any size, and form, WITH LABEL designed by the exhibitor and affixed to the container. The container, unless opaque, must contain honey. Commercial stock labels (e. g. Dadant, Root, etc.) prohibited. Apiary and/or exhibitor name permitted on label.

President's Prize - Any creative or artistic endeavor prominently featuring the honey bee, beekeeping or pollination. If apiary and/or exhibitor name is an integral part of the entry, then name permitted.

Photography - Entry shall consist of a single black and white OR color print, 5" x 7" minimum, suitably framed or mounted.

Equipment or Gadget - Entry shall be any original tool or equipment, exhibitor constructed, useful in any aspect of beekeeping. A written description giving details of construction materials, cost and labor must accompany the entry. Apiary and/or exhibitor name permitted if integral part of tool or equipment. Costs and labor commensurate with utility.

Mead and Honey Wine - Wine made from honey and water must. Augmented mead may be dry or sweet and may contain fruit juices and/or herbs, spices. Dry mead under 2.5% sugar content and sweet mead over 2.5% sugar content will be determined by the judge by chemical tests after bottle is opened for judging. Allowed ingredients in all classes: sulfating, yeast, yeast nutrients/energizer, tannin, citric acid or acid blends. Mead must be at least 12 months old and exhibited in Fifth or Quart bottles. Sparkling mead must be exhibited in champagne bottles with appropriate wired closure.

Educational Exhibit - An educational exhibit shall serve to educate the public in some aspect of honey bees or beekeeping. Material from any source may be used. Constraints on dimensions may be imposed by the Show Chairman if space is limited.

Display - A display shall consist of hive products produced by the exhibitor from his/her own hive(s) and/or apiary. Artistic endeavors produced from hive products such as candles from beeswax are permitted. Materials from other sources may be used only as an aid to displaying the exhibitor's products. Constraints on dimensions may be imposed by the Show Chairman if space is limited.

Maryland Beekeeping Organization Display - The purpose of the display is to promote the beekeeping industry by presenting its products, equipment and educational material. The display shall also serve to educate the public about the beekeeping activities in the region that the organization serves. The display must include the name of the beekeeping organization. The hive products must be produced by that region's beekeepers. Artistic endeavors produced from hive products such as candles from beeswax are permitted. Materials from other sources may be used as an aid in displaying the products and to create the educational aspects of the exhibit. Constraints on dimensions can be imposed by the Show Chairman if space is limited. Two of the Maryland bee organizations will be invited to exhibit each year, on a rotating basis.

# MARYLAND JUDGING STANDARDS

*Upgrading allowed only where indicated.*

## EXTRACTED HONEY (all colors and classes)

1. Container: appearance
2. Density
  - a. Water content above 18.6%: disqualified
  - b. No upgrading below 16% water content
3. Freedom from crystals
4. Cleanliness and freedom from foam
5. Flavor
  - a. Downgrade for objectionable flavor or overheating
  - b. Disqualify for fermentation
6. Accuracy of filling
  - a. Headroom: 1/2 inch maximum, 3/8 inch minimum with no visible gap between honey level and cap
  - b. If multiple entries, uniformity of filling

## COMB HONEY - Square Section, Round Section, Bulk Frame, Extracting Frame

1. Container: appearance and suitability
2. Uniformity of appearance
3. Absence of uncapped cells
4. Absence of watery cappings
5. Cleanliness and absence of travel stain
6. Freedom from granulation and pollen

## CUT-COMB HONEY

1. Container: appearance and suitability
2. Uniformity of appearance
3. Absence of uncapped cells and granulation
4. Absence of watery cappings
5. Cleanliness and absence of travel stain, pollen, crushed wax
6. Absence of liquid honey
7. Neatness and uniformity of cut
  - a. Upgrade for 4 parallel-sided cuts
  - b. Downgrade for ragged edges